



PR 22 2004

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Date: April 20, 2004

PATENT  
TH1714 (US)  
CWS:EM

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of )  
JAMES A. WAMBAUGH )  
Serial No. 09/754,793 ) Group Art Unit: 1725  
Filed January 4, 2001 ) Examiner: Len Tran  
METHOD TO EQUALIZE HEAT DISTRIBUTION )  
IN REACTOR TUBE )

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

AMENDMENT

This amendment is in response to the non-final office action mailed January 26, 2004.

04/27/2004 HSMITH1 00000001 191800 09754793  
01 FC:1201 172.00 DA

V. New claims 6 – 23

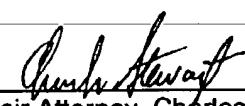
It is respectfully submitted that new claims 6-23 are patentably distinct over the references cited by the Examiner. For instance, the references do not teach the use of a monolith for the direction of heat flow through a reactor tube in order to equalize a temperature profile across the reactor tube. There are also many other significant distinctions.

VI. Conclusion

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests early allowance of claims 1, 5, and 6-23.

Respectfully submitted,

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